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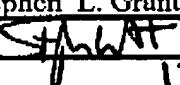
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<b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b> <i>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</i>		Application Number 09/974,777	<b>RECEIVED</b> <b>CENTRAL FAX CENTER</b> <b>APR 13 2004</b>
		Filing Date October 9, 2001	
		First Named Inventor Prof. Dr. Max Schaldach	
		Art Unit 3731	
		Examiner Name Thaler, Michael	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	18	Attorney Docket Number 117163-28	

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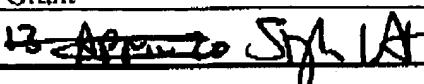
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Remarks		
Response to non-final action of 11 February 2004 Faxcd to 703-872-9306 No fees believed to be due		

**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT**

Firm or Individual name	Stephen L. Grant; Hahn Loeser & Parks LLP
Signature	
Date	13 April 2004

**CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING**

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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.6. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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Ser. No. 09/974,777  
Response to Office Action of 11 February 2004  
Atty Docket 117163-28

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CENTRAL FAX CENTER

APR 13 2004

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Schaldach

Examiner: Thaler, M.

Ser. No.: 09/974,777

Art Group: 3731

Title: STENT

Filed: 9 October 2001

Date: 13 April 2004

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**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION**

This letter is responsive to the Examiner's Office Action of 11 February 2004. No extension fee is believed to be due. No fees for excess claims are believed to be due. If there is any fee deficiency, please charge it to Deposit Account 15-0450.

This response is made under the revised 37 CFR 1.121.

The response has the following parts:

**Amendments to the Specification** - none made;

**Amendments to the Claims** – beginning on page 2;

**Amendments to the Drawings** – none made;

**Remarks** – beginning on page 12

**Marked up copy of von Oepen '747, Figure 5** – page 16; and

**Marked up copy of Globerman '161, Figure 16** – page 17